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Washington LABOR MARKET

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Washington State
Employment Security

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Highlights

Unemployment Stable

Estimates of total employment and unemployment in Washington State were little changed between January and February with employment down 700 and the jobless rate at 9.2 percent in both months and identical to its February 1986 rate. Nationally, total unemployment edged down from 7.3 to 7.2 percent over the month and was down from 7.8 percent in February 1986.

Estimates Conflict

In contrast to the total employment estimate, which is heavily influenced by a sample of only 800 households in this state that are included in the national monthly Current Population Survey (CPS), nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose 5,000 between January and February. The nonfarm wage and salary estimate is based on a monthly establishment survey of about 5,600 firms in the state which employ approximately 50 percent of all wage and salary workers and is undoubtedly a more accurate

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	Feb. 1987* (Prel.)	Jan. 1987* (Rev.)	Feb. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	2,179,000	2,179,900	2,102,400
Total Employment	1,978,200	1,978,900	1,909,100
Total Unemployment	200,800	201,000	193,300
State Unemployment Rate	9.2	9.2	9.2
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.3	7.8

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

barometer of employment trends than the CPS based total employment estimate. While total employment includes agricultural employment and self-employed individuals, nonagricultural payrolls account for over 85 percent of total employment. Farm employment likely increased slightly in February, and with nonfarm payrolls up 5,000, it is probable that a larger household sample for this state would have reflected an expansion in total employment as well. Federal budget constraints, however, have limited the ability of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, to expand the CPS sample to provide more accurate state estimates.

Education and Service Payrolls Expand

Public education and the service industries were credited with the largest gains in nonfarm payroll employment in February. Public education employment moved up 3,000. The increase, however, mainly represented the rehiring of student employees at colleges and nonteaching elementary and secondary school employees who had been laid off between terms. Public education employment fell from 155,200 in November to 153,000 in December and to 151,300 in January before increasing to 154,300 in February. Private schools and colleges also rehired workers laid off between terms and helped boost employment in services 3,300 in February. Other seasonal expansions in services included agricultural services where tree pruning was in high gear and at firms which prepare income tax returns for businesses and individuals. Amusements also contributed to the expansion with

higher employment reported by golf courses and bowling lanes. Ski resorts, however, had lower employment.

Retail Trade Lower But Spring In The Air

Partially offsetting growth in public education and services, employment in retail trade fell 3,200. The loss was seasonal and reflected the end of January sales and inventory work at department and apparel stores. Cushioning these losses were gains at hardware-building supply stores and at restaurants and other eating and drinking places which began to expand from their winter lows. Wholesale trade also reflected the approach of spring with a gain of 400: nearly all of the increase was at fruit and vegetable warehouses which began distributing fresh produce from the Southwest. Transportation, communications and utilities (up 300) also began its seasonal expansion with trucking payrolls edging higher.

Construction employment moved up 200 in February with most of the increase in homebuilding which continues to be favored by low mortgage rates. Growth in the building trades, however, was well below normal for February, possibly because exceptionally mild weather in January allowed work to continue on projects which normally would have been shut down by harsh weather. Since work was not interrupted, there was no recovery in February.

Manufacturing Payrolls Stable

Manufacturing employment (down 100) changed little between January and February although there were signs of the beginning of seasonal expansions: lumber employment was up slightly with logging employment beginning to expand, while firms producing fertilizer added workers to boost chemicals employment 100. Aerospace added 400 in February to continue its expansion, but the increase was offset by a loss in aluminum employment which resulted from the closure of the Commonwealth Aluminum plant in Goldendale.

Strong Growth Over The Year

Contrasting with the pedestrian changes over the month, nonfarm wage and salary payrolls were up 51,900, or three percent, over the year. Nearly all of the gain occurred in the nonmanufacturing industries. Employment in the service industries rose 19,900 to account for over one-third of the year-to-year gain. Among the faster growing segments of this industry were health studios and clubs, management and consulting services, and clinics which help people addicted to drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Retail trade employment rose 12,000 over the year to post the next largest gain. Eating and drinking places continued to expand at a fast pace and accounted for one-fourth of the overall growth in retail payrolls. Grocery stores also recorded a substantial gain because of expanded operating hours and a broader product line at larger stores. Miscellaneous retail trade was credited with a healthy gain because of the opening of more specialty shops. Building material-hardware stores employment expanded as low mortgage rates have encouraged both new construction and remodeling. Furniture dealers also added to their payrolls with increased business related to the pick up in new home construction and remodeling.

Weather Helps Construction

Construction employment was up 5,700 over the year. While the gain was largely due to an expansion in home building, the increase benefited from exceptionally mild weather this winter. Increased home construction also helped the finance, insurance, and real estate industry where employment rose 3,800 over the year. Two-thirds of the expansion was in real estate payrolls. Insurance employment also picked up, but employment in banking was lower.

In the manufacturing industries, aerospace payrolls were up 7,200, or nine percent, over the year, but the net gain in manufacturing was only 1,000 because of losses in other industries. Nonelectrical machinery employment fell 4,000 over the year to post the largest drop. Much of the decline resulted from the end of work on equipment for the oil fields in Alaska. Oil field development activity was sharply

reduced in Alaska and elsewhere because of the large drop in petroleum prices early last year. Food and kindred products employment fell 1,300 year to year with automation beginning to reduce employment needs at canneries. Primary metals jobs were down 1,100 because of plant closures, including aluminum smelters in Vancouver and Goldendale. Although widely promoted as the answer to cutbacks in more traditional manufacturing industries, "high-tech" did not fare well over the year: employment in instruments dropped 700, or 6.6 percent, because of lower demand and increased competition.

Offsetting losses in manufacturing besides aerospace were gains of 500 each in pulp and paper products and in printing and publishing. The expansion in pulp and paper was helped by growing foreign demand which resulted from the declining value of the dollar abroad. The increase in publishing appears to be related to population growth and an expanding economy which generated more advertising revenues.

Area Developments

Paralleling statewide developments, unemployment rates changed little over the month in major areas but wide differences persisted. Compared with the statewide rate of 9.2 percent in February, the overall rate in Western Washington was 8.1 percent, but east of the Cascades the rate was 13.0 percent. In counties largely dependent on the lumber industry, the rate was 14.5 percent. Rates in Eastern Washington are exceptionally high in winter months because agriculture and the related food products industry, which are the area's major source of jobs, are at their seasonal lows. The lumber industry is also highly seasonal, but in this industry and the areas which depend upon it, spring and summer will still see a jobless rate at recessionary levels. Lumber demand is strong, but automation has increased productivity in the industry substantially in recent years, eliminating the jobs of thousands of workers.

Unemployment Rate High In Lumber Areas And Eastern Washington--Low In Puget Sound Area

Western Washington, and more specifically the Puget Sound area, owes its relatively low jobless rate to a more diversified economy with a larger proportion of its jobs in industries which are more stable seasonally such as aerospace, international trade, corporate administrative jobs, military base and other government payrolls.

The unemployment rate in the Seattle Metropolitan Area at 6.8 percent was the lowest of the western areas in February followed by the Bremerton Area at 6.9 percent. Tacoma's rate at 9.4 percent was slightly above the statewide average, largely because

of the termination of work on equipment for the oil fields in Alaska last year.

In Eastern Washington, Yakima County's jobless rate was 16.6 percent in February. While high it was down from 17.4 percent in January because of a pick up in fruit tree pruning, and well down from its year-earlier rate of 18.4 percent. The over-the-year improvement resulted from more apple packing and shipping activity this February than in February 1986. In February 1986, 1.7 million boxes of apples were shipped from warehouses in the Yakima area versus 3.0 million boxes this February. The 1985 apple crop in the Yakima area was small because of a spring freeze. Spokane Metropolitan Area's unemployment rate was 9.7 percent, about equal to its year-earlier level.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Growth In Manufacturing Checked By Imports

Foreign competition continues as the prime concern in manufacturing. Employment has advanced substantially in Washington State as well as in the nation in the last year, but the new jobs have largely occurred in the nonmanufacturing industries where earnings are generally lower than in manufacturing. In Washington State only two percent of the net gain in nonfarm payroll employment between February 1986 and 1987 was in manufacturing. And apart from aerospace, employment in manufacturing actually dropped more than 6,000 over the year. A good share of the loss can be attributed to growing foreign competition, especially in primary metals, including aluminum, electrical and electronic products, shipbuilding, and instruments. Nationally, manufacturing employment actually declined over the year.

Trade Deficit Down In Volume

The effect of the declining dollar on the trade deficit has not been as rapid as many had hoped. Part of the problem has been that the decline in the dollar itself has resulted in higher import prices, so that even given some reduction in volume, imports measured in dollar values have increased making it appear that the problem is becoming worse. In the fourth quarter, the Commerce Department estimated that import prices rose at a 13.9 percent annual rate, pushing up imports measured in current dollars. Measured in volume rather than current dollars, though, the Department estimated that the trade deficit declined slightly in the fourth quarter.

Another perspective is gained by comparing the dollar value of exports with values in terms of the currency of the nations involved. In terms of dollars, West German exports last year rose 32 percent, while Japanese exports were up 19 percent. The West German

mark, however, rose 85 percent in terms of the U.S. dollar last year, while the yen jumped 65 percent. Taking this into consideration, it would have been surprising if the dollar value of their exports had declined. In terms of their own currencies, Japanese exports fell 16 percent in 1986 while West German exports declined two percent.

Tariff Imposed On Some Japanese Products

Although there are signs of improvement in the trade deficit, Congress and the Administration are becoming impatient. Legislation is being considered in Congress which would curtail imports from nations which continually export more to this country than they import. Last year the Administration placed tariffs on cedar shingles and shakes and lumber exported from Canada to the U.S. In March, President Reagan imposed a tariff of $300 million on some Japanese goods exported to the U.S. because of Japan's failure to live up to an agreement it made last year on semiconductor trade. Part of the agreement was to stop selling semiconductors below their fair market value. Despite the agreement, Japanese firms continued selling semiconductors abroad at an average of 59.4 to 63.6 percent of their home market price. Japan also agreed to help U.S. companies increase their share of the Japanese semiconductor market to 20 percent. Japan is the world's largest market for semiconductors and U.S. firms now have less than nine percent of that market.

Lumber Production Forecast--Down From 1986 But Up From 1985

A forecast released in March by the Western Wood Products Association sees lumber production in the Western U.S. falling 6.2 percent in 1987, but with production for the year projected at 18.285 billion board feet, it will still be above the 1985 level of 17.338 board feet. The Association does not expect the tax on Canadian lumber to affect the volume of Canadian lumber shipped to the U.S. They noted, however, that the strike of British Columbia woods workers, which lasted nearly five months in 1986, benefited U.S. producers substantially and may remain a factor until spring because of a shortage of logs at some Canadian mills.

The Association forecasts a relatively strong homebuilding industry in 1987 because of good demand, ample mortgage funds, and relatively low mortgage rates. Apartment construction, however, is expected to remain slow because of overbuilding in some areas and changes in tax law. For 1987 housing starts are expected to total 1,750,000 units, down from 1,807,300 in 1986 but up slightly from 1985.

Timber Supply In South Declining?

A U.S. Forest Service study reported that timber production in southern states could drop sharply in the future because of the failure to replant logged-off land in those states. Industry sources in the South disagree saying that if the South maintains is current trend in reforestation, no decline will occur. Most southern states, however, have left replanting and management of timber lands up to private owners. Compounding the problem, 70 percent of the forest land in the south is held in small holdings. In the Northwest, extensive regulations apply to forest management practices, and most of the forest land is in large holdings.

Whether a decline in southern timber production will help the Northwest lumber industry is not certain. According to some analysts, privately owned timber lands in the Northwest lack sufficient capacity to increase production, and it is questionable whether more timber will be available from public lands. Currently the Forest Service wants to cut the annual harvest in the Olympic National Forest from 250 million board feet to 186 million board feet.

Vancouver Smelter To Reopen

Vanalco Inc. announced in late March that they planned to complete purchase of the idle ALCOA aluminum plant in Vancouver on June 1 and restart the smelter in July. The new firm expects to employ 400 to 500 workers. The 47-year-old smelter has been closed since last summer.

Other favorable news in the aluminum industry was the announcement by Reynolds Metals Company that it would restart a potline at its Longview plant in March and add 65 employees. The firm cited an upturn in orders for finished aluminum products as the reason for its expansion.

NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Housing Starts Strong

Housing starts in the nation rose to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,851,000 units in February, the highest rate since April 1986 and up 2.6 percent from January. The pick up from January was in single-family units which rose 5.6 percent. Apartment construction remained weak, falling 4.1 percent because of high vacancy rates in some areas and the elimination of tax-shelter incentives in the new tax law. Analysts attributed the strength in single family starts to low mortgage rates. Building permits, a barometer of future construction activity, rose 4.4 percent between January and February.

Mortgage Rates Lowest In Nine Years

Home mortgage rates have dropped to their lowest levels since 1978, but analysts are divided over whether rates will continue to decline or increase. The rate on 30-year conventional mortgages in early March averaged 9.08 percent nationally, down from 10.2 percent one year earlier. Some analysts feel rates are now near their low point because reductions since the beginning of the year have been small. Others believe rates will fall further. Many banks, however, raised their prime lending rates in early April as bond prices fell because of weakness in the dollar in terms of foreign currencies. Lower bond prices, of course, raise the effective interest rates on bonds.

New Home Sales Drop

In contrast to the increase in housing starts and building permits in February and declining mortgage rates, the sale of new single family homes nationally fell 2.7 percent in February following an 8.6 percent drop in January. Sales, however, rose 2.8 percent in the West in February. Most of the reduction occurred in the Northeast and South. A spokesman for the National Association of Homebuilders said that it appeared the market for new homes had peaked but that the market remains strong.

Trade And Services To Expand

Employment in the service group in February began to move up from its annual low, while retail trade was at its annual low. Both industries, however, will be posting seasonal gains from March through the summer months as local and interstate tourist business picks up. While the outlook for both trade and services is promising, it is questionable whether they can maintain their current growth rates. Over the year, retail trade employment was up 3.8 percent in February, while payrolls in the services group rose 5.2 percent.

Tourism Big Business

Tourist business in the state this year will not have the stimulus of the World's Fair in Vancouver B.C. More than one million visitors were estimated to have driven through Washington State to visit EXPO '86. Nonetheless, tourist business is not expected to fall off this year. Some areas, in fact, may actually see tourist business pick up because last year many state residents went to EXPO '86 rather than to vacation spots within the state. According to state tourist officials, tourist business generated $3 billion in revenue last year in Washington State and supported 85,000 jobs in tourist-related businesses.

Layoffs In Trade And Services Too

Although the trade and services industries are among the fastest growing sectors of the economy year in and year out, cutbacks do occur at individual establishments. Group Health Cooperative announced in

February that it would eliminate 50 clerical and management jobs and leave another 70 jobs unfilled because of increasing competition and a decline in enrollments. Layoffs were also announced by the Bon, Allied Stores Corp., to increase efficiency. The reduction involved 100 middle management and staff jobs.

Layoffs Proposed At Hanford And Satsop

Budget proposals for the Washington Public Power Supply System recommend cutting funds to preserve the systems mothballed nuclear plants at Hanford and at Satsop in Grays Harbor County. According to one proposal 341 jobs would be eliminated including 164 at Hanford and 177 at Satsop.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

Small Business To Create Many New Jobs

A survey of 5,000 U.S. firms by Dun and Bradstreet indicated 2.6 million jobs will be created nationally in 1987 with about one-half of them at businesses which employ less than 50 workers. The expected job expansion is equivalent to that of 1986. Firms with under 20 workers are expected to account for 37 percent of the new jobs in 1987, while firms with 20 to 49 workers will create 12.5 percent, according to the survey. The survey also indicated that the nation's largest firms with 25,000 or more workers expect a decline in employment because of restructuring and cost reduction measures.

Consumer Confidence Up

The Conference Board, a business-supported research group, reported consumer confidence rose in February, but consumer plans to buy cars and homes declined. The confidence index rose to 92.3 in February, a gain of more than six points from January when it dropped to 86 after running in the 90s for most of 1986. The index has a 1985 base of 100. The Board's research director commented that consumer confidence is restrained despite the recent upturn, and that while the survey indicates that a recession is unlikely so are prospects for a surge in growth.

Leading Indicators

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the government's main barometer of future economic activity, rose a healthy 0.7 percent in February following a 0.5 percent drop in January and a 2.4 percent gain in December. December's gain was influenced by consumers and businesses who bought in advance of their needs to take advantage of the sales tax deduction and more generous depreciation schedules which were available under last year's tax law. The drop in January was expected because of the jump in December.

Contributing to the gain in the Index in February were a rise in the average workweek, increased orders for consumer goods, higher stock market prices, and a gain in the number of building permits issued. Leading indicators on the negative side in February were the money supply and sensitive material prices which fell, and unemployment claims which rose. The number of firms reporting slower business deliveries declined, which is also considered negative because it implies lower order backlogs.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX*

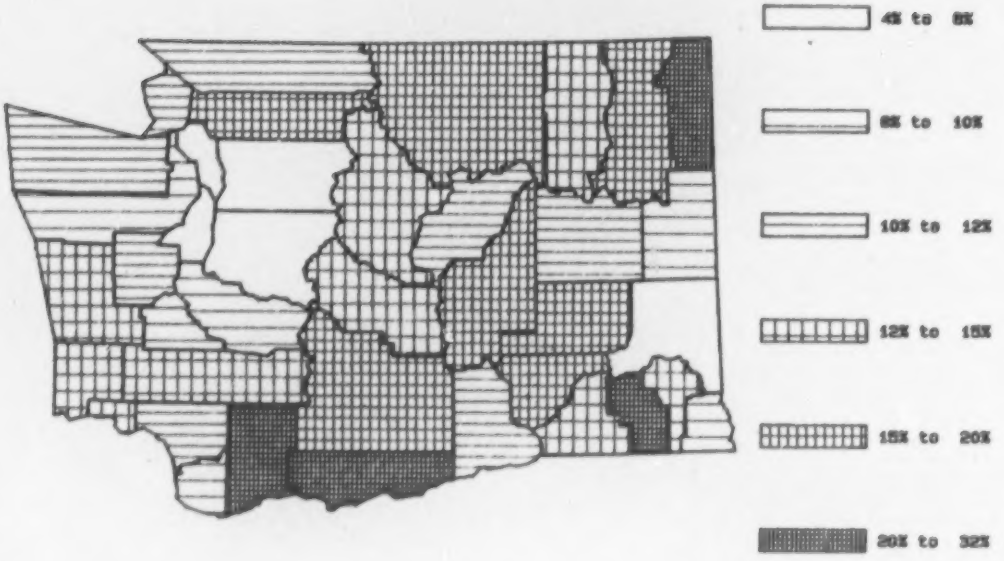
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

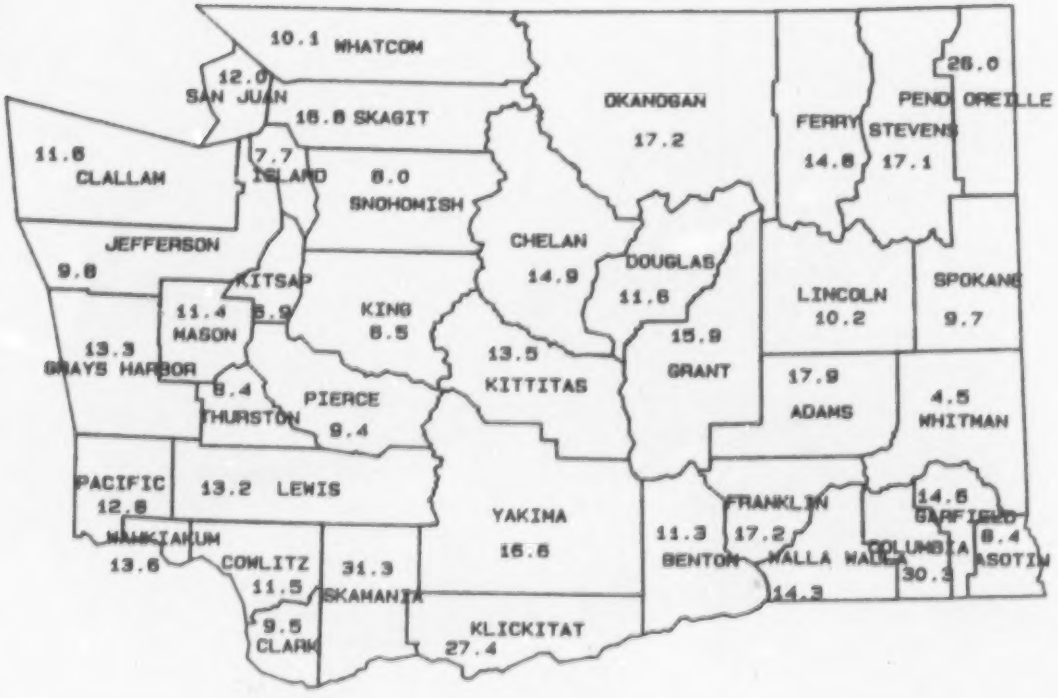
	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	Feb. 1987	Jan. 1987	Feb. 1986	Feb. 1987	Jan. 1987
U.S. City Average	334.4	333.1	327.5	2.1	1.4

* The Bureau of Labor Statistics no longer develops bimonthly CPI data for the Seattle area. Beginning this year the Seattle index will be published twice a year. The index covering the first half of 1987 will be released in August. The index for Seattle will reflect prices in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

FEBRUARY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

State of Washington 9.2





NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 2/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Industry	Feb. 1987 (Prel.)	Jan. 1987 (Rev.)	Feb 1986 (Rev.)	Jan 1986 (Rev.)	Numerical Change: Jan. 87 to Feb. 87	Numerical Change: Feb. 86 to Feb. 87
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY....	1769.9	1764.9	1718.0	1710.9	5.0	51.9
MANUFACTURING.....	299.5	299.6	298.5	297.4	-0.1	1.0
Durable Goods.....	211.2	211.0	210.0	209.1	0.2	1.2
Lumber & Wood Products.....	36.4	36.3	36.5	36.9	0.1	-0.1
Furniture & Fixtures.....	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8	0.0	0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass.....	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8	0.0	0.0
Primary Metals.....	11.0	11.5	12.1	12.2	-0.5	-1.1
Aluminum.....	7.1	7.5	8.0	8.1	-0.4	-0.9
Fabricated Metals.....	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.7	0.1	0.0
Machinery.....	28.2	28.1	32.5	31.8	0.1	-4.3
Machinery (Exc. Elec.)...	16.2 4/	16.1 4/	20.2	19.5	0.1	-4.0
Electrical Equip.....	12.0	12.0	12.3	12.3	0.0	-0.3
Transportation Equip.....	101.8	101.2	94.5	93.8	0.6	7.3
Aerospace.....	88.9	88.5	81.7	80.7	0.4	7.2
Other Transp. Equip.....	12.9 4/	12.7 4/	12.8	13.1	0.2	0.1
Instruments & Related.....	9.9	9.9	10.6	10.6	0.0	-0.7
Misc. Manufacturing.....	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.5	-0.2	0.0
Nondurable Goods.....	88.3	88.6	88.5	88.3	-0.3	-0.2
Food & Kindred Products....	27.2 4/	27.4	28.5	28.2	-0.2	-1.3
Canned & Preserved Foods.	8.2	8.4	9.6	9.2	-0.2	-1.4
Apparel & Allied Products..	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	-0.1	-0.1
Paper & Allied Products....	16.9	17.0	16.4	16.5	-0.1	0.5
Printing & Publishing.....	18.8	18.9	18.3	18.1	-0.1	0.5
Chemicals & Allied Products	11.6	11.5	11.4	11.5	0.1	0.2
Other Nondurable Goods 3/..	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.9	0.1	0.0
MINING & QUARRYING	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.6	0.0	0.2
CONSTRUCTION.....	80.8	80.6	75.1	74.1	0.2	5.7
TRANSP.,COMM. & UTIL.....	94.7 4/	94.4 4/	93.6	94.4	0.3	1.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE.....	431.6	434.3	416.2	418.4	-2.7	15.4
Wholesale Trade.....	107.4	106.9	104.0	102.9	0.5	3.4
Retail Trade.....	324.2 4/	327.4 4/	312.2	315.5	-3.2	12.0
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE.....	106.4	106.1	102.6	102.1	0.3	3.8
SERVICES.....	399.3	396.0	379.4	375.8	3.3	19.9
Health Services.....	124.0	123.9	119.0	118.6	0.1	5.0
GOVERNMENT.....	354.8	351.1	350.0	346.1	3.7	4.8
Federal.....	70.3	70.1	68.8	68.8	0.2	1.5
State & Local.....	284.5	281.0	281.2	277.3	3.5	3.3
Education.....	154.3	151.3	153.6	150.4	3.0	0.7
(WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES.....	1.8	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.8

_1/ These data are alternative estimates which are more nearly comparable to data released in previous years than are official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for Federal program purposes.

_2/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

_3/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

_4/ Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

DATE 4/3/87
Benchmark: 1986

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	FEBRUARY 1987 PRELIMINARY 1/				JANUARY 1987 REVISED 1/				FEBRUARY 1986 REVISED			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,179,000	1,978,200	200,800	9.2	2,179,900	1,978,900	201,000	9.2	2,102,400	1,909,100	193,300	9.2
Bellingham MSA	55,500	49,900	5,600	10.1	55,200	49,400	5,800	10.5	53,900	48,200	5,700	10.6
Bremerton MSA	69,600	64,800	4,800	6.9	70,100	65,300	4,800	6.8	69,000	64,700	4,300	6.2
Olympia MSA	71,300	65,300	6,000	8.4	71,000	65,000	6,000	8.5	67,600	62,100	5,500	8.1
Seattle PMSA	977,600	911,300	66,300	6.8	978,900	912,700	66,200	6.8	926,300	862,700	63,600	6.9
King County 2/	777,600	727,200	50,400	6.5	778,300	728,400	49,900	6.4	735,800	688,500	47,300	6.4
Snohomish County 2/	199,900	184,000	15,900	8.0	200,600	184,300	16,300	8.1	190,500	174,200	16,300	8.6
Spokane MSA	162,400	146,600	15,800	9.7	163,600	148,100	15,500	9.5	160,000	144,400	15,600	9.8
Tacoma PMSA	231,800	210,100	21,700	9.4	231,500	209,900	21,600	9.3	225,300	206,800	18,500	8.2
Tri-Cities MSA	67,500	58,900	8,600	12.7	67,000	58,500	8,500	12.7	65,000	57,600	7,400	11.4
Benton County 2/	51,300	45,500	5,800	11.3	51,200	45,200	6,000	11.7	49,700	44,400	5,300	10.7
Franklin County 2/	16,300	13,500	2,800	17.2	15,900	13,400	2,500	15.7	15,300	13,200	2,100	13.7
Vancouver PMSA	103,100	93,300	9,800	9.5	102,900	93,100	9,800	9.5	101,800	92,200	9,600	9.4
Yakima MSA	81,400	67,900	13,500	16.6	80,400	66,400	14,000	17.4	80,100	65,400	14,700	18.4
Adams	6,250	5,130	1,120	17.9	6,090	5,070	1,020	16.7	5,920	4,890	1,030	17.4
Asotin	8,550	7,830	720	8.4	8,560	7,820	740	8.6	7,850	7,040	810	10.3
Clallam	21,490	19,000	2,490	11.6	21,780	19,110	2,670	12.3	20,890	18,400	2,490	11.9
Columbia	1,980	1,380	600	30.3	1,930	1,380	550	28.5	1,860	1,330	530	28.5
Cowlitz	33,550	29,690	3,860	11.5	33,740	29,880	3,860	11.4	32,780	28,050	4,730	14.4
Ferry	2,370	2,020	350	14.8	2,380	2,040	340	14.3	2,530	2,070	460	18.2
Garfield	1,030	880	150	14.6	1,020	870	150	14.7	1,040	870	170	16.3
Grant	23,300	19,600	3,700	15.9	23,770	19,990	3,780	15.9	22,690	19,510	3,180	14.0
Grays Harbor	26,030	22,580	3,450	13.3	25,800	22,280	3,520	13.6	25,110	21,700	3,410	13.6
Island	16,750	15,460	1,290	7.7	16,740	15,450	1,290	7.7	16,620	15,380	1,240	7.5
Jefferson	7,540	6,800	740	9.8	7,540	6,780	760	10.1	7,030	6,340	690	9.8
Kittitas	11,500	9,950	1,550	13.5	11,520	9,980	1,540	13.4	11,450	9,840	1,610	14.1
Klickitat	7,690	5,580	2,110	27.4	7,550	5,650	1,900	25.2	7,480	5,690	1,790	23.9
Lewis	23,980	20,820	3,160	13.2	24,130	20,860	3,270	13.6	22,740	19,450	3,290	14.5
Lincoln	4,310	3,870	440	10.2	4,320	3,900	420	9.7	4,030	3,640	390	9.7
Mason	12,050	10,680	1,370	11.4	12,140	10,690	1,450	11.9	12,070	10,740	1,330	11.0
Okanogan	14,030	11,610	2,420	17.2	14,100	11,630	2,470	17.5	14,060	11,170	2,890	20.6
Pacific	6,500	5,670	830	12.8	6,590	5,710	880	13.4	6,470	5,590	880	13.6
Pend Oreille	3,000	2,220	780	26.0	3,010	2,240	770	25.6	3,540	2,870	670	18.9
San Juan	3,990	3,510	480	12.0	3,980	3,540	440	11.1	4,040	3,610	430	10.6
Skagit	30,240	25,160	5,080	16.8	29,960	24,920	5,040	16.8	31,400	26,980	4,420	14.1
Skamania	2,460	1,690	770	31.3	2,410	1,620	790	32.8	2,340	1,610	730	31.2
Stevens	10,640	8,820	1,820	17.1	10,550	8,860	1,690	16.0	10,830	8,840	1,990	18.4
Wahkiakum	1,100	950	150	13.6	1,070	910	160	15.0	1,260	1,060	200	15.9
Walla Walla	22,950	19,660	3,290	14.3	23,190	19,770	3,420	14.7	22,550	19,440	3,110	13.8
Wenatchee Labor Area	37,370	32,190	5,180	13.9	37,370	32,310	5,060	13.5	36,480	31,190	5,290	14.5
Chelan County 2/	25,570	21,760	3,810	14.9	25,520	21,840	3,680	14.4	25,040	21,080	3,960	15.8
Douglas County 2/	11,810	10,440	1,370	11.6	11,860	10,480	1,380	11.6	11,450	10,110	1,340	11.7
Whitman	18,220	17,400	820	4.5	18,120	17,180	940	5.2	18,350	17,620	730	4.0

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series.

2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

April 3, 1987
Benchmark: 1986

	FEBRUARY 1987 PRELIMINARY 1/				JANUARY 1987 REVISED 1/			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,159,300	1,955,900	203,600	9.4	2,171,200	1,968,900	202,300	9.3
Bellingham MSA	55,000	49,300	5,700	10.4	55,100	49,200	5,900	10.7
Bremerton MSA	68,900	64,100	4,800	7.0	69,800	65,000	4,800	6.9
Olympia MSA	70,500	64,500	6,000	8.5	70,600	64,600	6,000	8.5
Seattle PMSA	968,300	901,000	67,300	7.0	974,700	908,100	66,600	6.8
King County 2/	770,200	719,100	51,100	6.6	774,900	724,700	50,200	6.5
Snohomish County 2/	198,200	182,000	16,200	8.2	199,800	183,400	16,400	8.2
Spokane MSA	161,000	145,000	16,000	9.9	163,000	147,400	15,600	9.6
Tacoma MSA	229,800	207,700	22,100	9.6	230,500	208,800	21,700	9.4
Tri-Cities MSA	67,000	58,300	8,700	13.0	66,700	58,200	8,500	12.7
Benton County 2/	50,800	44,900	5,900	11.6	50,900	44,900	6,000	11.8
Franklin County 2/	16,100	13,300	2,800	17.4	15,800	13,300	2,500	15.8
Vancouver PMSA	102,200	92,200	10,000	9.8	102,500	92,700	9,800	9.6
Yakima MSA	80,800	67,100	13,700	17.0	80,100	66,000	14,100	17.6
Adams	6,200	5,070	1,130	18.2	6,070	5,050	1,020	16.8
Asotin	8,470	7,740	730	8.6	8,520	7,780	740	8.7
Clallam	21,320	18,790	2,530	11.9	21,690	19,010	2,680	12.4
Columbia	1,970	1,360	610	31.0	1,930	1,380	550	28.5
Cowlitz	33,280	29,360	3,920	11.8	33,620	29,730	3,890	11.6
Ferry	2,350	2,000	350	14.9	2,370	2,030	340	14.3
Garfield	1,020	870	150	14.7	1,020	870	150	14.7
Grant	23,140	19,380	3,760	16.2	23,690	19,890	3,800	16.0
Grays Harbor	25,830	22,330	3,500	13.6	25,710	22,170	3,540	13.8
Island	16,590	15,290	1,300	7.8	16,670	15,370	1,300	7.8
Jefferson	7,480	6,730	750	10.0	7,510	6,740	770	10.3
Kittitas	11,410	9,840	1,570	13.8	11,480	9,930	1,550	13.5
Klickitat	7,660	5,520	2,140	27.9	7,530	5,620	1,910	25.4
Lewis	23,790	20,590	3,200	13.5	24,040	20,750	3,290	13.7
Lincoln	4,280	3,850	430	10.5	4,310	3,880	430	10.0
Mason	11,950	10,360	1,590	11.6	12,100	10,640	1,460	12.1
Okanogan	13,940	11,480	2,460	17.6	14,060	11,570	2,490	17.7
Pacific	6,460	5,610	850	13.2	6,570	5,680	890	13.5
Pend Oreille	2,990	2,200	790	26.4	3,000	2,230	770	25.7
San Juan	3,960	3,470	490	12.4	3,960	3,520	440	11.1
Skagit	30,030	24,880	5,150	17.1	29,860	24,790	5,070	17.0
Skamania	2,470	1,680	790	32.0	2,400	1,610	790	32.9
Stevens	10,570	8,720	1,850	17.5	10,520	8,820	1,700	16.2
Wahkiakum	1,090	940	150	13.8	1,060	900	160	15.1
Walla Walla	22,780	19,440	3,340	14.7	23,110	19,670	3,440	14.9
Wenatchee Labor Area	37,080	31,830	5,250	14.2	37,240	32,150	5,090	13.7
Chelan County 2/	25,370	21,510	3,860	15.2	25,430	21,730	3,700	14.5
Douglas County 2/	11,710	10,320	1,390	11.9	11,810	10,420	1,390	11.8
Whitman	18,040	17,210	830	4.6	18,040	17,100	940	5.2

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	February Production Workers/ Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Jan-87	Dec-86	Jan-86	Jan-87	Dec-86	Jan-86	Jan-87	Dec-86	Jan-86
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES*	176,800	$484.41	$481.19	$464.52	40.3	39.9	39.2	$12.02	$12.06	$11.85
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber and Wood Products	31,100	$435.59	$433.88	$438.70	40.9	40.1	39.1	$10.65	$10.82	$11.22
Primary Metal Industries	8,600	$545.18	$547.80	$541.68	43.2	43.1	41.7	$12.62	$12.71	$12.99
Fabricated Metal Products	7,100	$434.30	$439.27	$444.38	38.4	38.6	39.5	$11.31	$11.38	$11.25
Machinery	16,400	** $385.14	**$378.49	$383.17	39.3	38.7	38.9	$9.80	$9.78	$9.85
Food and Kindred Products	18,900	** $371.51	$366.10	$345.60	37.3	36.5	36.0	$9.96	$10.03	$9.60
Chemical and Allied Products	5,500	$625.83	$576.89	$576.16	43.4	40.9	41.6	$14.42	$14.10	$13.85
Transportation Equipment	42,200	** $620.31	**$618.23	$565.40	42.4	42.2	41.3	#$14.63	#$14.65	$13.69
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction	56,900	$584.87	$577.45	$573.16	36.6	35.8	35.6	$15.98	$16.13	$16.10
Wholesale and Retail Trade (does not include eating and drinking establishments)	264,100	** $324.99	**$316.35	$321.73	34.5	33.3	34.3	$9.42	$9.50	$9.38

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not fully reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

** Affected by labor-management disputes.

Includes effect of pro-rated 12% bonus